Amendments to the Specification

Page 28, lines 22-29, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Laser package 262 converts a modulated electronic signal into a modulated optical signal with the same modulation as the electronic signal. The laser package may consists of a laser portion 263 a modulator portion ~~264~~265. For a DFB laser the two portions are integrated into a single solid state device. Alternatively, the two portions may be a continuous laser such as a Fabry-Perot laser and an external modulator, in which case, transmission medium 264 may include an optical lens system and fiber and the laser and modulator may be physically separated by a substantial distance. Optics system 267 directs modulated laser beam 266 into the end of optical fiber 268, and coupler 269 connect between fiber 268 and optical fiber 270.

Page 31, lines 8-10, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Combiner 310 combines the plurality of second carrier signals in respective transmission lines ~~307-307~~306-307 into a single third multicarrier signal with the same carrier frequencies as in the second multicarrier signals in transmission line 312.

Page 32, lines 26-28, please amend the paragraph as follows:

An optical fiber network connects between each fiber-hub and a respective plurality of HFCNs (e.g. 40), but only a few of the HFCNs connected to fiber-hub ~~331-~~336 are shown to simplify illustration.

Page 32, line 29 through page 33, line 2, please amend the paragraph as follows:

HFCN 362 is connected by a single optical fiber 361 to fiber-hub ~~331~~336. The single fiber is used for the analog broadcast optical signals, forward digital signals, and return digital signals. The fiber is attached to a WDM in the fiber-hub which combines the analog and forward digital signals and separates the return digital signal from fiber 361. Then the optical return signal is routed from the WDM to an optical ~~up-converted and up-converter~~ up-converter and up-converted as described in relation to figure 1.

Page 33, lines 16-21, please amend the paragraph as follows:

One or more independent coaxial cable networks is attached to each HFCN but only a small portion of one network attached to HFCN ~~336~~ 362 is shown in figure 5 in order to simplify illustration and description. Branching tree-like coaxial cable network 371 connects between HFCN ~~366~~ 362 and a plurality of CUIs (e.g. 500) as shown. The network includes bi-directional amplifiers such as amplifier 382 positioned every 300 to 600 meters along the cable in order to amplify the electronic signals in each direction in the coaxial cable network.